

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon 97636
Phone 676-9228

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

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WESLEY A. SHERMAN
HELEN E. SHERMAN
ARNOLD RAYMOND
Shop Foreman
Printer
JIM SHERMAN
Pressman

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER
REGGIE PASCAL
Linotype Operator
Randy Stillman
Apprentice

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Hearts at Half Mast

In the hearts and minds of many persons in the Heppner area, the American flag is flying at half mast upon hearing the news that David Clark, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Clark, now living at La Grande, was killed in action in Vietnam Friday.

His death in the conflict is the first from Morrow county and brings the poignant tragedy of this war closer to all of us here. It keenly touches those who have young men of their own serving in Vietnam; it causes added concern for those whose relatives or friends may be called; and it brings deep sympathy from all who abhor the loss of our young manhood and deplore the waste of war.

Just as surely as we can remember David playing basketball with fellow high school students with full zeal do we claim him as a Morrow county man, even though his family moved shortly after he graduated from high school to La Grande. We're sure that David considered Heppner as "home."

In the sacrifice of this young man we see evidence again of the nobility of our youth. Although probably not fully understanding the cause or the need for the Vietnam conflict, David—like so many—went willingly and gave his life for the cause. This is what the nation's leaders said was necessary.

It is for us at home to be sure that our young David Clark is not called upon to make this supreme sacrifice without resulting in some permanent good for all mankind. They pay the price—the most a man can pay—by giving their lives. This is the ultimate in faith. The responsibility remains for those of us who live in comfort at home to be sure that the benefits to be gained are sufficient to send them to mortal combat on foreign soil.

When one feels the deep grief that has come to the Don Clark family, he better understands what an awesome and terrible responsibility this is.

In the Vietnam conflict we see the unfair incongruity of war. While our young men die in jungles and swamps of that foreign land, we enjoy a rodeo weekend or prepare for a Labor Day outing as if all were at peace in the world.

It is hard to believe that this conflict can be won—or a satisfactory settlement made—until all our citizenry becomes involved and shares in sacrifices, instead of the relatively few who are directly involved.

Everyone who knows the Don Clark family and who knows how close they were — the respect and pride they shared — bleeds at heart at this time of their grief. Even many who only now hear of them will be touched with sympathy.

It may be some small solace that all admire the courage and qualities of David Clark, and other young men like him, who step forward to do their duty without question or hesitation when they are called.

Congratulations on a Fine Job

The fair and rodeo are now history, but the talk we hear around town is all in the superlative degree.

It has been a popular publicity policy to speak of any forthcoming fair or rodeo as "the biggest and best yet." But not always do those who utter or write these words really believe them. This is just part of the fanfare considered important for a proper buildup in the hope that, by so saying, the events may tend to become the "biggest and best."

The 1967 fair and rodeo season came here with few such advance boastful statements, but now that it is all over, oddly enough, the superlatives come.

Many have said that the parade was the biggest and the best, with the most participation and the largest crowd watching. The gate at the rodeo leaves little question that it was one of the best attended in recent years because the receipts were far beyond last year. Many have said that they enjoyed the shows Saturday and Sunday more than others of the past. There was more local participation and interest.

Attendance at some of the events at the fair, such as the livestock auction, the dress revue, and others, might also have set new records. However, there is no definite way to tell because admission is free.

Probably the thing that more than any other becomes the criterion for success of such events as fair and rodeo is the reaction from the public, for whom they are staged.

Thus, if most of the people think they are the best, then they truly must be the best.

So, now that the banners are being folded away again, the booths taken down, the floats dismantled, and the livestock back on the ranch, we look back with hundreds of others and say to all those who had a part in the staging of fair and rodeo, "Congratulations on a very fine job!"

It is nice to be able to say, "It was the biggest and best," in these many respects and truly believe it.

Civil Defense Talks of Radios

Proposal to establish a mobile radio system to link all towns of the county and the county courthouse with the Oregon Civil Defense system was discussed at a morning meeting at the courthouse August 22.

Under the plan, each of the five towns in the county would have mobile radio stations. In case of an emergency, all the towns would be in contact with the courthouse, and with the state.

No approval has been received from the state as yet on matching funds for setting up the project, County Judge Paul Jones said. However, a representative is coming from the regional office of Civil Defense to discuss the matter further.

At the Tuesday meeting were Ted Smith, new county Civil Defense administrator; Mayor Chester Wilson of Irrigon; May-

or Clarence Rosewall of Heppner; Chief of Police Glen Kolkhorst of Heppner; Sheriff C. J. D. Bauman; Harold (Doc) Sherer, county roadmaster; Commissioner Jack VanWinkle and Judge Jones.

Examiner Coming

A drivers license examiner will be on duty in Heppner Tuesday, September 12, at the courthouse between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., according to an announcement received from the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Frank Lovgren and his cousin, Dean Lovgren, returned the first of last week from a two-weeks trip to Canada. They visited Larry Lovgren, brother of Dean, at Lewis Creek, Canada, and the boys enjoyed boating and other water sports while there.

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

INTERESTING sequel to the item and picture we ran recently about the New York Giants football team came late last week from Frank Gifford himself, former Giant star and now WCBS-TV director of sports, via Mrs. Mary M. Wood of New York City, who subscribes to the G-T.

Gifford confirms that the Giant in the picture with him and the Smileroo clown is Bill Austin, now head coach of the Pittsburgh Steelers. This is something that Gene Winters, county extension agent, told us the morning the particular issue of the G-T came out, but as Mrs. Wood puts it, it is interesting to have evidence again that the Gazette-Times "gets around."

Mrs. Wood writes to us as follows: "I mailed Mr. Gifford the article and picture which you published in the Gazette-Times a couple of weeks ago. I note from the last issue that I received that someone had identified the other player."

"In my letter to Mr. Gifford I asked him to either let me or your newspaper know who the player was. I thought you might be interested in his reply and to know that the Gazette-Times gets around. I sent the whole page."

Enclosed with her letter to us was the letter from Gifford:

"Dear Mrs. Wood: Thank you very much for sending me the picture that appeared in the Heppner Gazette-Times. It does bring back old memories."

"The player seen in the picture with me is Bill Austin, who is now head coach of the Pittsburgh Steelers. Thanks again, Sincerely, Frank Gifford, Director of WCBS-TV Sports."

Mrs. Wood's address is 333 E. 85th Street, New York City 10028.

Although still feeling a bit chagrined that we couldn't recall Austin's name at the original running, we thank Mrs. Wood for her trouble and appreciate her interest.

—AND YOU may recall the picture of Mrs. Pete McMurtry and her friend petting the deer, which also ran in connection with this column recently. The deer, as you may remember, was known as "Duke" and was so tame that he would come at the calling of his name.

But if you should go up Willow Creek and call for Duke now, you would get no response, for the noble buck is gone.

There are those who believe that Duke will show up in the Happy Canyon performance in Pendleton at Round-Up time. Dick Wilkinson came in the other day to express this opinion, apparently learning from somewhere that Duke had dramatic ambitions and intends to play an important part in this widely-acclaimed pageant.

He believes that the buck is in the care and custody of some of the Indians of the Pendleton area who will also have part in the pageant. We're a little hazy on the point, but it seems that the Game Commission frowns on anyone taking a wild deer for domestic purposes out Indians, through some treaty rights, or something, have this privilege.

Someday we'll try to catch Glen Ward and have him clarify this point for us.

Our understanding, though, is that Duke will share top billing in the animal kingdom at Happy Canyon with a coyote that the promoters have acquired somewhere. So if you want to see this Heppner buck in his dramatic debut, be sure to get tickets to Happy Canyon this year.

AFTER THE little buildup on Bob DeSpain in last week's column about him being so "franky," the whole punch line of the item went awry, somewhere between the linotype machine and the proofreaders. It was left off entirely. The last line should have been:

Bob makes Franz with everyone.

We wanted to work in this item about his bread so it might help him make a little more dough. At least you don't see Bob loafing around. The more bread we sell in this wheat country, the better off we are.

AND NOW, back at the ranch, we want to turn attention to a few items about Fair and Rodeo.

FIRST OFF, we now have more understanding of those little pigs in the scramble at the 4-H and FFA awards night at county fair. In the scramble to get results of fair, rodeo, horse show, parade, and all stuff like that there, we must feel just as frantic as those pigs who desperately search for hidey-holes in that livestock arena.

Those who have been working towards some of these big events for months breathe happy sighs of relief when the curtain rings down, and the yen is to fold tents and steal away.

But, alas and alack, we in this news game just then have to go to work in earnest. It is estimated that if all the fair, rodeo, parade and horse show results were laid end to end, we still wouldn't get them all in the paper correctly.

BUT we try. If we made boobies in this paper and if we left some out, we'll try to make up for it next week.

FOR INSTANCE, we wanted a picture of Lewis Cason at the head of the parade Saturday. When we tried to find him, we couldn't. Finally, the parade started moving, and there he was at the head of it. The starting gait of the parade was at a pretty good clip. We tried to run and catch up, but the old arthritic bones wouldn't move fast enough. We snapped the camera in desperation from almost squarely behind the horse.

Oh, we got a picture all right, but we're sure Mr. Cason wouldn't want to be represented by what shows on the negative from the position we took the shot.

He made a fine grand marshal, and we beg his indulgence for our pictorial shortcomings.

WE GOT a phone call from Harry Ringhand of Milton-Freewater this morning. He and his wife, Vi, operate the M-F Valley Herald with Wally Cowen and the Ringhands brought the Lutheran float to the parade.

Harry had a great big compliment for the crowd that watched the parade:

"This audience was the most enthusiastic of any place we have been this year," said he, "and I appreciate it. We had an entirely different feeling toward Heppner after we left there."

They have been around with this float, too. It has gone to most of the major celebrations in eastern Oregon and Washington and will finish with appearances at the Pendleton Round-Up and in Walla Walla.

"In most places, the crowds just sit on their hands, but not in Heppner," Harry said.

Boy, we're glad to hear that comment! Maybe this is the reason we got so many fine entries from all over. Remember this next year, folks, and applaud twice as much.

AND, if we had been smart, we'd have taken some pictures of the dismantling of the Lutheran float to traveling condition. It is almost unbelievable how they fold it down to the place where it looks like a little go-cart. Underneath it all is a Volkswagen chassis, and it looks like one that never fully matured.

But when the bows of the float are unfolded, it spreads out 18 feet wide. When the route of the parade went to the Court Street bridge over Willow Creek, they didn't think they could get across. The bridge is just barely 18 feet wide. But Harry bent some of the big bows to make it.

It was great to have this entry. It takes a lot of yogurt to go to the effort of bringing such a fine float all this way. Thanks a lot, Harry!

QUITE A NUMBER of folks admired the way the "young lady" worked in the rodeo arena, rounding up stock, chasing the wild broncs and corraling the bulls right along with the men. They admired her skill and wanted to know who she is.

She comes by her skill naturally, since she is the daughter of Howard and Juanita Johnson, the stock contractors, of Condon.

Delene is a former Miss NRA (Northwest Rodeo Association) and will be a junior in college in the fall. She attended Blue Mountain College last year. In June of this year, she became Mrs. when she married Norman Dufey of Condon, who also performed in the rodeo.

THE TEMPTATION is great to try to write words of praise to Tad Miller, Floyd Jones, Lena Smith, John Venard, Clista Venard, Ron Currin, Gail McCarty, all the members of the fair board, fair committee, rodeo board, Randall Peterson, Joe Balle, but sure as shooting, we'd leave out some of the most important ones. But don't they do great work!

How Randall puts together such a great parade with so little fanfare, we'll never know. Joe Balle earned his commission as a Great Sport with the way he played along with that wild cow riding and saw it through to the final bounce. As Joe Daley, announcer said, they put a bell on the bulls in bull riding because as long as you hear the clatter below you know you're O. K., but when you hear it over your head, you know the ride is over.

I don't think they had bells on the wild cows, but it only took a couple of jumps for Joe. Chances are he heard bells whether they were on the cow or not!

This little by-play on Balle built up a great lot of crowd interest, and this fellow did a whale of a job in his first year in handling the rodeo gates, too. A lot of people paid to see the show who were used to getting in on their good looks, too, but the take is somewhere between \$800 and \$1000 more.

JOE DALEY, the rodeo announcer, who is a school principal in Pendleton, did a masterful job at the microphone at the performances.

His quips filled in if any lag threatened, and he always had a good one on the tip of his tongue.

When a few raindrops started to fall Saturday night, he ex-

Lovgren Has Surgery For Knee Condition

Frank Lovgren, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Lovgren, was due home the middle of the week from Pendleton following surgery on Saturday for a chipped bone on his left knee. The knee condition became serious after he had turned out for a few of this year's football practices, and after medical observation, surgery was found necessary.

Frank will be in a cast for several weeks and the doctor has advised him to discontinue all sports for the rest of his senior year. He also underwent surgery a year ago to correct a cartilage condition in the other knee.

TO THE EDITOR.

On Gold Standard

To the Editor:

Around the early 1920's there was a bit of a hassle in Morrow County over the delivery of a couple or so thousand head of sheep; and all this is brought to mind in a very recent comment by Mr. Caverhill in his series of articles now appearing in the Gazette-Times, which, by the way, are most interesting to me.

Bill Beamer, who is the subject of my comment, was, at the time, president of the Farmers & Stockgrowers National Bank of Heppner. However, his main interest was sheep, and, as Mr. Caverhill says, he had a lot of them. The story goes that Mr. Beamer had contracted to sell and deliver on a certain date to A. C. Ruby of Portland the above mentioned sheep, delivery to be made to Mr. Ruby at the rail station yards at Echo, Ore., for so much per head.

Well, to make a rather long story a bit shorter, between the date of contract and the ship delivery date, the price for ewes on the Chicago market had advanced sharply, and in this turn of events Mr. Beamer would have to forego a very nice profit, as he had contracted to sell for less and Mr. Ruby would be the gainer by a few thousand dollars. But wait—payment for sheep at time of delivery was, according to the contract, to be made in United States gold coin. (A fiscal technicality!)

Ruby was notified the gold coin provision meant just what it said, down to the dotted T, and the crossed T. It all happened over a weekend, the banks were closed and Ruby, who was, like his good friend Beamer, a very astute trader, realized he had better act fast, for he also knew Beamer was a man of his word.

The sheep were at the corrals in Echo and Beamer was awaiting the train from Portland, bringing Ruby, no doubt figuring Ruby would try the certified check routine, etc. Bill would stand pat and there would be no delivery without the gold coin payment.

In came the train and off got Ruby, the express car door flew open and a box was deposited at the station. It contained some \$40,000 in gold. Ruby had roused out a banker friend of his in Portland, got him down to the bank and got the gold coin.

Bill didn't think Ruby would make the grade but he did, and Ruby took delivery of the sheep. Bill had to be content with the \$40,000 in gold coin, a very hefty package, we can imagine.

Art Crawford
4852 Kingston Way
San Jose, Calif.

claimed over the mike, "You stuff come down is rain. Some of you younger people have never seen any before, but that's what it is!"

From what we gather, Joe Daley will come back to announce the Morrow county rodeo as long as he wants the job. He keeps right with it, embellishes the show for the crowd and keeps them posted.

DAGNAB IT, there's a lot more we'd like to say about the past week's events, but Reggie Pascal, who's already sweating like a trouter at the Linotype machine with an electric fan blowing on his back, will refuse to set it.

Scott Hurt in Fall

Ralph Scott of Lexington is in St. Anthony hospital, Pendleton, for treatment to a hip injury suffered Monday at his home. He had intended to spray a calf and had the animal tied to a rope. The calf bolted, and the rope tripped Mr. Scott abruptly, resulting in the injury. He was brought to Pioneer Memorial hospital but was later taken to the Pendleton hospital for specialized treatment.

Mr. and Mrs. James Crimmins of San Mateo, Calif., spent several days here visiting his aunt, Bess Huddleston. They enjoyed taking their first look at Eastern Oregon.

Turkey Shoot

SUNDAY, SEPT. 10
10:00 A.M.
3 1/2 Mi. East of Lexington
On Highway 74

Sponsored by Morrow County Rifle and Pistol Club

Rifles and Pistols With Open Sights or Scopes
PUBLIC INVITED—Turkeys and Hams to Winners

Pioneer



Ponderings

By W. S. CAVERHILL

Ownership by Homesteading

Under the Homestead Act of 1865, early settlers were given title to 160 acres of contiguous "40s" for a filing fee of \$16.50, and after residence for five years in not less than a 12'x14' cabin and a reasonable development of cultivated acres.

Time of residence allowed about half of each year of the premises to earn a living. This leeway in requirements led to some abuse of the law. A farmer or sheepherder would file on a quarter section and patent it after scant compliance with the law, then sell it to his employer for four or five hundred dollars.

After the better lands were taken, homesteads of 320 acres were allowed with a 3-year residence. Finally a "desert homestead" of 640 acres was allowed. That allowance didn't last long, and the remaining domain of marginal lands was placed under the Bureau of Land Management where it remains today.

Many of our successful land operations began with a consolidation of homesteads.

Project Slated On Phone Lines

A \$10,600 telephone construction project for the Heppner area was approved by Pacific Northwest Bell's board of directors August 24.

The project calls for the relocation of long distance and local telephone cable one mile east of Lone along State Highway No. 74, according to Dale Slusher, local manager for the phone company.

One and a quarter miles of additional phone cable and 52 new poles will be placed as part of the project. An equal amount of existing cable is to be removed from the construction area.

The project is necessary due to highway construction now underway in the area.

Work on the project is scheduled to start immediately, with completion slated for the end of September.

Including the Heppner-Lone project, PNB's board approved \$845,000 in new telephone expansion and improvement projects for Oregon at its August meeting.

Unrein is Advanced In Marine Training

Frank L. Unrein has received an advancement to private first class at Schools Battalion, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, Calif., according to official word received by his mother, Mrs. Jack McTimpeny, dated August 21.

Pfc. Unrein is taking 12 weeks of specialized mechanical training at the base. During his recent leave, he visited his relatives here and with friends at his former home in Lincoln City.

Scott Hurt in Fall

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Mr. and Mrs. James Crimmins of San Mateo, Calif., spent several days here visiting his aunt, Bess Huddleston. They enjoyed taking their first look at Eastern Oregon.

Hat Rock Ski Show to Attract Crowd Labor Day

An outstanding water ski program is again being planned for Labor Day, September 4, according to Ray Heimbigner of Lone.

Residents of Morrow county are invited to attend the spectacular water ski show, put on by McNary Yacht Club skiers at their site near Hat Rock State Park. There will be no admission charge, and the show begins at 1:00 p.m.

Lone's famous skiers, Tom Heimbigner, Joe, Mark and Frank Halvorsen, will be featured performers in the newest acts in the show. They will take a five people pyramid over the jumping ramp for another "first ever" in the sport.

Tom will make a deep water barefoot takeoff with no skis or anything but his body, and end up skiing on nothing but his barefeet. He has torn many ropes learning this stunt, and Tom is the only skier in the West to have accomplished this feat.

Mark will demonstrate distance jumping at 35 miles per hour off the six-foot ramp. He has made 127 feet in tournament competition this year, which is a tremendous distance even for the "big boys", according to the director.

Joe is the pyramid boy who teams up with Tom to execute pyramids on shoe skis, canoe paddles, heel towed pyramids, and the now famous pyramid over the jump which is the insignia of this great show group.

Frank's most famous stunt is a wild cowboy-type hydrofoil ride. The foils are a small airplane-type device that, when attached to a pair of skis and ridden properly will attempt to buck off the best of riders.

Ray Heimbigner is the director of the entire skiing operation of the McNary Yacht Club. He extends a sincere invitation to anyone who would like to see a water ski show that is considered the West's equal or better than the Cypress Gardens show in Florida.

Charles V. Allen Completes Basic

Seaman Recruit Charles V. Allen, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent C. Allen of Kinzua, has been graduated from nine weeks of Navy basic training at the Naval Training Center at San Diego.

In the first weeks of his naval service he studied military subjects and lived and worked under conditions similar to those he will encounter on his first ship or at his first shore station.

Marine Private Finishes Training

Marine Private Donald D. Troxell, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald D. Troxell, Sr., of Spray, has graduated from eight weeks of recruit training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot at San Diego.

He will now undergo about three weeks of individual combat training and then, after leave at home, will report to his first Marine Corps assignment.



Coming Events

HEPPNER SWIMMING POOL
Pool closes for season Sunday, Sept. 3

GOLDEN AGE CLUB
Resumes regular meetings, Tues., Sept. 5, Episcopal Parish Hall

Potluck dinner, 7:00 p.m., entertainment following

WATER SKI SHOW
Labor Day, Sept. 4, Hat Rock State Park, 1 p.m.
By McNary Yacht Club skiers
No admission. Everyone welcome

HEPPNER HIGH FOOTBALL
First Home Game of Season Friday, Sept. 8, Heppner Rodeo Grounds
Heppner vs. Enterprise
Support the Mustangs!

TURKEY SHOOT
Sunday, Sept. 10, 10:00 a.m.
3 1/2 mi. E. of Lexington on Hwy. 74
Sponsored by Morrow County Rifle and Pistol Club
Public invited

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